

REMARKS

This response is submitted in response to the final Office Action dated August 17, 2007. Claims 72-80 and 88-93 have been canceled. Claims 100-114 have been added. No new matter is added. Thus, favorable reconsideration is requested.

Applicants thank the Examiner for conducting the Examiner's Interview dated October 23, 2007.

35 U.S.C 103(a) Rejections

In the Office Action, claims 72-80 and 88-93 are rejected pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 103(a) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,219,045 ("Leahy"), U.S. Patent No. 5,923,737 ("Weishut") and in further review of U.S. Patent No. 4,821,029 ("Logan").

Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 72-80 and 88-93 have been canceled. Applicants also submit that new Claims 100-114 traverse such rejections. Claim 100 is similar to canceled Claim 72 but reads, in relevant part, "sending an agent parameter from the electronic system, wherein the agent parameter is at least one of an inner information and an outer information, wherein the inner information and outer information define a behavior associated with the agent that is represented by a plurality of animated images."

Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments are fully supported by the specification. For example, the specification on page 27 lines 16-21 state, "It is noted that the behavior of the post pet is determined by the agent parameters 203 as follows: Specifically, the relative intensities of the pseudo-desires are determined by the environment of the post pet and stimuli from the user. Each desire agency has a score and sensitivity, whilst each behavior unit adds new scores with the scores of each desire agency as an input. The behavior unit having the maximum score is manifested." The specification on page 13 lines 20-21 reads, "The post pet parameter information 203D is made up of inner information and outer information, as shown in Fig. 8."

The specification on page 28 lines 23-25 also state, "The behavior units may be exemplified by a walking unit U1 for animated representation of the walking motion, a running unit U2 for animated representation of the running operation..."

Dependent Claims 101-106 contain similar language to canceled Claims 75-80 and are fully supported by the specification. Dependent Claim 107 contains similar language to canceled

Claim 88 and is fully supported by the specification. Dependent Claims 108-110 contains similar language to canceled Claims 91-93 and are fully supported by the specification. Dependent

Applicants respectfully submit that references Leahy, Weishut and Logan do not disclose or suggest a plurality of behaviors associated with animated images. Instead, there is a single image indicating a light being on or off, see Weishut, column 5, at lines 48-52.

Additionally, Applicants submit that the combination of references do not disclose or suggest the agent parameters being one of inner and outer information. The agent of the combined references does not exhibit the behavioral traits or inner information as are claimed and fully supported by the specification. Therefore, even if properly combinable, Applicants believe that the cited art is distinguished from the claimed invention.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 72-80 and 88-93 are patentably distinguishable and in condition for allowance.

New Claims

Claims 111-114 are newly added.

Claims 111 reads, "Method of Claim 100, wherein said inner information is directed to personality traits."

Claim 112 reads, "Method of Claim 100, wherein said inner information includes at least one of mail count, age, sex, intelligence, vigor, friendship with the keeper, hunger, happiness, cleanliness, bio-rhythm, noise, friendship with the counterpart, positiveness/negativeness, cheerfulness/gloominess, gentleness/coldness, concentration/diffuseness, chic/awkward, fashionability, attractiveness and taste for gourmet."

Claim 113 reads, "Method of Claim 100, wherein said outer information is directed to an environmental conditions."

Claim 114 reads, "Method of Claim 100, wherein said outer information includes at least one of position, comfortableness of a room, user action and guest action."

The new Claims are fully supported by the specification. For example, the specification on page 13 lines 20-31 read, "The post pet parameter information 203D is made up of inner information and outer information, as shown in Fig. 8. The inner information is made up of, for example, mail count, age, sex, intelligence, vigor, friendship (with the keeper), hunger,

happiness, cleanliness, bio-rhythm (indefinite element), noise (indefinite element), friendship (with the counterpart), positiveness/negativeness (+/-), cheerfulness/gloominess (+/-), gentleness/coldness (+/-), concentration/diffuseness (+/-), chich/awkward, fashionability, attractiveness or taste for gourmet. The outer parameters is made up of, for example, position, comfortableness of a room, user action-number of times of hitting, guest action-called, guest action-shown friendship, guest action-shown hostility, guest action-giving items, and guest action-requesting items.”

Also, the specification on page 23, lines 1-2 state, “Specifically, the CPU processes’ the agent parameters responsive to the operating of caressing or hitting the post pet 103B by the operation of the mouse 21D.” Showing that the agent parameters respond to actions such as hitting the agent.


The combination of prior art does not disclose or suggest the inner or outer information elements. For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that Claims 111-114 are patentably distinguishable and in condition for allowance.

The remaining claims 81-87 and 94-99 have been considered allowed. See, Office Action, page 8.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge deposit account 02-1818 for any fees which are due and owing.

Respectfully submitted,

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